

## Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 ATHENS 02386 121841Z

42

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EURE-00 ACDA-05 MC-02 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01

SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 EB-07 COME-00 SAJ-01 TRSE-00 /074 W

----- 114149

P R 121721Z MAR 76

FM AMEMBASSY ATHENS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3134

INFO AMEMBASSY ROME PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

AMCONSUL THESSALONIKI

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE ATHENS 2386

EO 11652: NA

TAGS: PFOR GR TU US

SUBJECT: ATHENS NEWSPAPER REPORTS SECY KISSINGER AND CIA  
SECRETLY EQUIPPED TURKEY WITH ARMAMENTS THROUGH  
ITALIAN COMPANIES

REF: ATHENS 1279

1. MASS CIRCULATION AFTERNOON NEWSPAPER TA NEA (LIBERAL,  
OPPOSITION) MARCH 12 CARRIES PROMINENT FRONT PAGE STORY  
UNDER THE HEADLINE "KISSINGER AND CIA SECRETLY SUPPLIED  
ARMS TO TURKEY THROUGH FIAT: A SCANDAL GREATER THAN  
LOCKHEED". THE STORY IS DATED ROME FROM TA NEA'S  
CORRESPONDENT YANNIS TSENIS.

2. TEXT OF STORY (NOT YET PICKED UP BY ANY OTHER PAPER  
HERE) ALLEGES THAT SECRETARY KISSINGER ORDERED CIA TO  
FINANCE THE ITALIAN INDUSTRIALIST GIOVANNI AGNELLI,  
PRESIDENT OF FIAT, IN ORDER TO EQUIP THE TURKISH ARMED  
FORCES. THE REPORT STATES THAT THIS "DIRTY UNDERTAKING  
BY FIAT" COMMENCED IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE CONGRESSIONAL  
DECISION TO CUT OFF MILITARY AID TO TURKEY BECAUSE OF  
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 ATHENS 02386 121841Z

THE "INFLEXIBLE STAND OF ANKARA ON THE CYPRUS PROBLEM."

A FEW DAYS EARLIER, ACCORDING TO TA NEA, A MEETING SUPPOSEDLY TOOK PLACE BETWEEN THE SECRETARY AND AGNELLI IN THE EXCELSIOR HOTEL IN ROME. SUBSEQUENTLY, FIAT AND OTHER LARGE ITALIAN PRIVATE BUSINESS CONCERSS ARE SAID TO HAVE BEGUN TO PROVIDE GREAT QUANTITIES OF MILITARY MATERIAL TO TURKEY INCLUDING BAZOOKAS, MILITARY VEHICLES, SPARE PARTS FOR AIRCRAFT AND TANKS.

3. IN ADDITION, AND MORE IMPORTANTLY, THE STORY CONTINUED, ALITALIA -- "A DAUGHTER COMPANY OF FIAT" --PROVIDED TURKEY WITH F-104 AIRCRAFT AND ALSO REACHED AGREEMENT TO PROVIDE ANKARA WITH G-222 AIRCRAFT "WITH MONEY PROVIDED BY CIA". FINALLY, THE STORY ASSERTED, THE MILAN BASED HELICOPTER COMPANY "AUGUSTA" -- ALLEGEDLY USING AS AN INTERMEDIARY ONE JOHN BENDA, SUPPOSEDLY AN AMERICAN CITIZEN WHO WAS SAID TO REPRESENT A TURKISH COMPANY CALLED "PANTURK", BEGAN TO PROVIDE HELICOPTERS TO THE TURKISH ARMY, NAVY AND GENDARMERIE. THE REPORT ASSERTS THAT JOHN BENDA HAS NOW DISAPPEARED.

4. TA NEA CONCLUDES ITS ACCOUNT BY CLAIMING THAT TURKISH PRIME MINISTER DEMIREL ATTEMPTED TO PREVENT THE RESIGNATION OF TURKISH AIR FORCE CHIEF OF STAFF IN ORDER TO AVOID EXPOSING THIS "GREAT SCANDAL".

5. (NOTE: TA NEA CORRESPONDENT YANNIS TSENIS IS THE SAME INDIVIDUAL WHO FILED THE RECENT STORY FROM ROME ON AMBASSADOR TASCA'S ALLEGED REMARKS ON CYPRUS -- REFTEL.)  
KUBISCH

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** PRESS COMMENTS, MILITARY ASSISTANCE, ALLEGATIONS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 12 MAR 1976  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** BoyleJA  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1976ATHENS02386  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D760094-0564  
**From:** ATHENS  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1976/newtext/t19760369/aaaacice.tel  
**Line Count:** 92  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ACTION EUR  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 76 ATHENS 1279  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** BoyleJA  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 11 FEB 2004  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <11 FEB 2004 by GarlanWA>; APPROVED <04 AUG 2004 by BoyleJA>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
04 MAY 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** ATHENS NEWSPAPER REPORTS SECY KISSINGER AND CIA SECRETLY EQUIPPED TURKEY WITH ARMAMENTS THROUGH  
**TAGS:** PFOR, EIND, MASS, GR, TU, US, IT, FIAT, CIA, (KISSINGER, HENRY A), (AGNELLI, GIOVANNI)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006